

17
THE LAST

Dying Speeches

And Confessions of the Three
Notorious Malefactors who were
Executed at *TYBURN*, on the 4th. of
this Instant *March*, 1681.

Giving an Account of the several
Crimes for which they suffered:
which are as followeth;

John Sadler,

For Whipping a Girl to Death at *Ratcliff*.

Roger Maiden,

For Eight *FELLONIES* and *BURGLARYS*.

Elizabeth Brown, alias White-head,

For Robbing the Two *Cocks* on *London-Bridge*, and
endeavouring to Cut the Maids Throat.

With their penitential Confessions as well in Prison, as at the place of
EXECUTION.

4. march. 1681

BEfore we enter upon the Confessions, it has been thought
fit to give the Reader a particular account of the Crime
for which every Offender suffers, the first of which de-
plorable Wretches we shall begin withal, is, one *John Sadler*,
who was by his Employ a Bailiffs Follower, lodging at one
Latice Wigingtons house, a School-mistress or Sempstress, living
in the Parish of *Ratcliff*, the said *Wigington* keeping many
Apprentices and Scholers to work, amongst which, was one
Elizabeth Holton, a Girl about Thirteen years of Age, whom
as they affirmed, had at several times purloyned things out of
the House, amongst which, was some Linnen of the Prisoners,
which he did not charge her with till about the 24 of *Decem.* last;

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When as her Mistris to whom she was Apprentice, having sent her of an Errand to carry some things home which had been bought there, did charge her with defrauding of two shillings or some such inconsiderable Sum, which the Girl utterly denying, she got the Prisoner, (who as the Evidence in Court did affirm was her Gallant) to assist her in giving the Girl Correction, when they shutting all the doors, got several Whip-cords which they knoted and tyed to a stick, by most called a *Cat of Nine-Tails*, then tying her by the Wrist, hung her up upon a Hook, where they having stripped her, the Prisoner with the aforesaid Cords, beat her upon the bare flesh for the space of an hour, all which time the woman (who for the same Fact was the Sessions before condemned, and pleaded her Belly) stopped her mouth lest the neighbours should hear her cry; then being weary of his cruel usage, he desisted, and fell to it again about half an hour afterwards, and so continued at several times, for the space of four hours, and as often as the Blood poured down, they rubbed the Wounds with Salt: This was sworn to in Court, and himself could not deny it, the Girl Dying three days afterwards; for which Hainous fact he received Sentence of death on the 26th. of *February* last, and from the Sessions-House conveyed back to *Newgate*, where he continued very penfive, much bewailing his sad state, saying; *That he had lived a most Notorious and Wicked Life, not only in all manner of Debaucheries, as VVhoring, Drunkenness, and the like; but that he had been a great Oppressor of poor People, and a continual Sabbath-breaker, for which Sins he supposed God had given him up to commit this Barbarous Murther for which he now suffered; saying, That the woman had been a great Instrument to prompt him on to wickedness, and that she was the cause he had committed so foul a Murther which now stuck sore upon his conscience, yet he hoped God would at the last except of his returning to him, and that he would wash away the Innocent blood which he had shed, with the meritorious death and passion of his Redeemer, and that he hoped to be cleansed in his blood, with many other pious expressions which he used to several that came to see him during the intervene of time, and on this day when he was put into the Cart, in order to be drawn to the place of Execution, he desired all to pray for him, and so continued till the Executioner did his office.*

The next in this shameful and untimely suffering, was one *Roger Maiden*, who formerly lived in *Acorn-Alley* near *Spittle-fields*, his Crimes for which he suffered, were numerous, for he was Indicted no less then Eight times for several *Fellonies* and *Burglaries*, which were all committed in the space of 5 weeks, in *Shadwell*, *Stepney*, and *White-Chappel* ; the names of the persons that he in the company of one *Fohn Maiden*, *Aiden*, and *Fohn Motly*, were these, *Fames Porter*, *Fane Harris*, *William Addams*, *Samuel Banfield*, *Phillip Story*, *Thomas Hopkins*, *Anthony Fowler*, and *Mary Clark*, from either of them stealing considerable quantities of Goods to a great value : Of Seven *Fellonies* and *Burglary* he being found Guilty, and onely acquitted, of one *Fellony* he received Sentence of death, after which he seem'd very melancholly and stupif'd for a considerable time, but finding that Death was certain, and that no Reprieve could be expected, he began to enquire of several Ministers that came to see him, how he might obtain a pardon for his sins, desiring that they would offer up their Prayers to God for to give him the Spirit of Prayer, which by reason of his former wicked Life he had lost; saying that he had been in above Forty Robberies, and helped to undoe many poor and honest people, for which he hoped God would forgive him : These and many other expressions he used to the last, desiring all to take warning by his wretched fate, and not to give their youth and strength to serve the Devil as he had done, but he hoped God would forgive him all his offences, and he hoped his downfall would be a warning to all that were spectators of the same.

Elizabeth Whitehead, alias *Brown*, who about half a Year since was Condemned, for that she in the Company of one *Thomas Brown*, alias *More*, executed, knocking at the Door of one Mr. *King*, at the Two fighting Cocks on *London-Bridge*, it being on a *Sabbath-day*, when they were all (the Maid onely excepted) gone to Church, under pretence of being Cousin to the Gentleman of the House, got so much credit with the Maid as to let them in, when she ceasing on her, endeavoured to still her out-cry by Cutting of her Throat, which she endeavouring to hinder, they cut her Hands and Face most miserably, then binding her, took in Plate and Moneys to the value of Four Hundred pounds, but ere they got

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got out of the House she got loose, and shutting her self into a Room, cryed out, whereupon help coming, the Prisoner got down upon the Piles and there was taken, the which upon her Tryal she not denying, she was found Guilty, and received Sentence of Death, but pleading her Belly, was respited till this day, and during the said interview, she shewed great Contrition, and much Lamented her Lost and Deplorable Condition, desiring all people to pray for her, saying; That she had been a grievous Sinner, and that she had been the cause of many Mans Ruine, and especially of the aforesaid *More*, (alias) *Browns*, whom she had drawn into the Robbery, for which she desired God would pardon her Offences, and Dyed very penitently.

FINIS.

Printed for T: B. in the Year, 1681:

